

SENATE BILL 2574

By Burks

AN ACT to name a certain interchange in honor of the late  
Lieutenant Governor Jared Maddux.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those exemplary public servants who contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities and this State; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than the late Jared Maddux of Cookeville, former Comptroller of the Treasury and four-term Speaker of the Senate and Lieutenant Governor of Tennessee ; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee lost a truly great attorney, citizen, and public servant on May 22, 1971, when death claimed the Honorable Jared Maddux of Cookeville at the age of 59; and

WHEREAS, a dynamic leader in Tennessee Democratic politics for more than twenty years, Lt. Governor Maddux began his illustrious career at the State Capitol by serving as Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives in 1943-44, and was then elected by the General Assembly to serve as Comptroller of the Treasury from 1945 to 1949; and

WHEREAS, after his legal and political careers were interrupted by courageous service in the United States Navy during World War II, Jared Maddux served as City Judge of Cookeville from 1950 to 1965; and

WHEREAS, he worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens as a five-term member of the Senate (1953-54, 1955-56, 1957-58, 1963-64, and 1965-66), also serving with distinction and providing inspired leadership as Speaker of the Senate and Lieutenant Governor and Vice Chairman of the Legislative Council Committee for four of those terms (1953-54, 1955-56, 1957-58, and 1965-66); and

WHEREAS, in addition to his political honors, Jared Maddux was also quite active in civic, professional, fraternal, and church work, serving as Commander of the American Legion in 1958-59 and as State President of the Tennessee Junior Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Lt. Governor Maddux was a valuable member of the Cookeville Jaycees and the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce, a past president of the Cookeville Lions Club, and a member the American, Tennessee, and Putnam County Bar Associations and the National Legislative Committee of the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, he was also a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner, and a member of the Official Board of the First United Methodist Church of Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, an astute lawyer with an incisive legal mind, Lt. Governor Maddux was also a keen parliamentarian who was eminently fair as a presiding officer and a capable legislator who always lent a strong voice of calm and reason to whatever deliberations in which he might be engaged; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to provide for a permanent tribute to one of the finest and most effective public servants this State has ever produced, namely Lt. Governor Jared Maddux; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the interchange at Exit 287 (State Route 136 / Jefferson Avenue) on Interstate 40 in Putnam County is hereby designated as the "Lieutenant Governor Jared Maddux Memorial Interchange".

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers at Exit 287 on Interstate 40, both eastbound and westbound, and on State Route 136 (Jefferson Avenue), both northbound and southbound, designating such interchange as the "Lieutenant Governor Jared Maddux Memorial Interchange".

SECTION 3. The erection of such directional signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.